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26 March 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting With Representatives of the Staff of the Joint
Committee on Atomic Energy Concerning Their
Request for an []

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1. On this date [] of
OSI, and I met with members of the staff of the Joint Committee on
Atomic Energy to brief them regarding an []
[] dated 8 January 1969, Subject: The TOKAMAK: An
Evaluation of its Success; its Prospects). Captain Ed Bauser, Staff
Director of the Joint Committee, had asked that we provide him with
a copy of this report. Present from the Committee staff in addition
to Ed Bauser were George Murphy and Seymour Schwiller.

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2. Acting on guidelines laid down by the Director, I informed
the JCAE staff members that we could not provide them with the report
since it contained raw intelligence which we felt was quite misleading
but that the Director wanted to be responsive to Captain Bauser's
request and had asked [] to brief him on the substance
of the report and our views regarding it. I also emphasized to the JCAE
staff that we are trying to clarify some of the vague aspects and keep
them informed regarding our progress on this. Captain Bauser said
he could not understand why we would not provide him with a copy of
this report in a blind form since it has obviously been given extremely
wide distribution in the various executive offices and agencies. Further-
more, he was doubly confused when we were willing to provide him with
the information but not the text of the report. He said it made him "feel
like a goddamn fool."

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3. I tried to restate our reasons for not making the report available but Bauser cut me off saying that he would discuss this with Chairman Holifield. He suggested that we go ahead with the briefing.

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (See their Memo for the Record for technical details.)

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At the expiration of the briefing (during which Bauser strongly contested [REDACTED] position on the [REDACTED] I tried again to explain to Bauser the reasons why the Director did not feel this report should be circulated outside of the intelligence community. I told him that he was well aware of the need for proper security procedures for protecting information of this sort and that it would certainly be difficult for the Director to insist that other members of the intelligence community adhere to the strict distribution limitations on raw intelligence if he violated this policy himself. Bauser conceded nothing on this but it is my opinion that in a typical JCAE reaction to a refusal for a document, Bauser got the matter off his chest and there is no point in going over that part of the issue unless he raises it again himself.

4. Captain Bauser indicated that the subject of controlled thermonuclear research was one of the most important topics before the Committee at this time and was a critical item in the Committee's consideration of portions of the AEC budget authorization. He asked that we do everything we could to expedite a clarification of the report, since the Committee might decide to defer action on the AEC budget until this is accomplished.

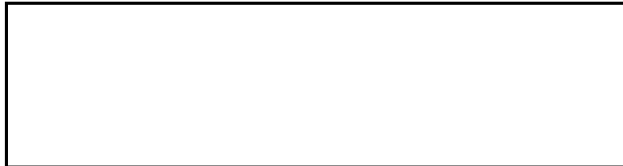
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5. Mr. Schwiller expressed the opinion that the report never should have been made in the first place but echoed Bauser's remarks that it had been widely disseminated and Schwiller seemed confident that he knew who the sources were. He asked why we didn't have [REDACTED] query the sources directly on this. I indicated that this was not our practice and in my opinion there was some question as to whether we should give credence to this source and this information by putting the Agency expert on the subject in direct contact with the source.

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6. Our meeting terminated on a fairly congenial basis with our giving assurance that we would do our utmost to expedite clarification of this subject and be back in touch with the JCAE staff members.



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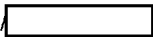
Deputy Legislative Counsel

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